(b) if so, the directions given by Government to these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (A) Yes Sir.

(b) Department of Women and Child Development has requested the various State Government/Union territories Administrations to draw up necessary Legislative proposal to amend Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act,, 1956 to give daughters their due share of coparcenary rights as has been done in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

Superintendence and control on the functioning of lower courts

1317. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the existing system of superintendence and control of Supreme Court and High Courts on the functioning of the lower curts;

(b) whether the system has worked successfully, if so,, the number of judicial officers punished for malfesance and misjudgement during the last three years; and

(c) if not, what corrective measures are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Under the Constitution of India, there is a single integrated system of Courts for the Union as well as the States which administer both Union and State laws, and at the head of the entire system stands the Supreme Court of India. Below the Supreme Court of India stand the High Courts of the different States and under each High Court there is a hierarchy of other courts called subordinate courts.

According to article 227 of the Constitution of India, every High Court shall have superintendence over all courts and tribunals throughout the territories in relation to which it exercises jurisdiction. The said article further provides that the High Court may call for returns from such courts; make and issue general rules and prescribe forms for regulating the practice and proceedings of such courts; and prescribe forms in which books, entries and accounts shall be kept by the officers of any such courts.

Article 235 of the Constitution of India vests the control over district courts and courts subordinate thereto including the posting and promotion of, and the grant of leave to, persons belonging to the judicial service of a State and holding any post inferior to the post of district judge, in the High Court.

(b) and (c) Available information pertaining to controlling system adopted by some of the High Courts is given in statement *(see* below).

As the matter relating to control over subordinate courts is the concern of the respective High Court the number of Judicial officers punished for malfeasance and misjudgement is not readily available.

Statement

Summary of information regarding administrative network for dealing with complaints of corruption of subordinate judiciatry

S.No	Name of High Court	Controlling System
1.	Kerala	Complaints against the Jud 1. Officers at preliminary stage are placed before the Admn. Judge in charge of the Distt. If found necessary, the matter may be referred to the Admn. Committee, a body comprising 5 Judges including the Chief Justice. There is also a vigilance cell.
2.	Orissa	Complaints against the Jud 1. Officers are placed before the concerned Portfolio Judge and comments of the Portfolio Judge are placed before the Chief Justice for being placed before the vigilance Committee. The view of the Vigilance Committee are placed before the Full Court for decision.
3.	Himachal Pradesh	The Complaints are first placed before the Chief Justice. Consequently, the allegations are looked into either by the Registrar (vig.) or by the Incharge Distt. & Session's Judge of the concerned Division.
4.	Gujarat	The High Court has an inbuilt administrative network to look into the complaints.

S.No.	Name of High Court	Controlling System
5.	Patna	There is a separate Vigilance Department in the High Court to look into the complaints. If needed , the Court takes suitable action against the Judl. officer.
6.	Sikkim	The High court itself conducts enquiry. The Court has not yet framed any separate specific rule in this regard.
7.	Delhi	The Chief Justice every year nominates group of Judl. Officers under the direct supervision and control for the purpose of inspection and-vigilance matters.
8.	Bombay	There is a Special Investigation Department for the purpose.
9.	Karnataka	There is a Vigilance Cell for the purpose.
10.	Jand K	The complaints are looked into by the Registrar (Vigilance) who submits his report to the Chief Justice.

Backlog of Cases Pending in the Courts

1318. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to the concern expressed in highest quarters about the ever increasing backlog of cases pending in High Courts and the Supreme Court of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what are the details of the case instituted, disposed off during the years 1998 and 1999 and pending as on 31st December, 1997, 1998 and 1999 in various High Courts and the Supreme Court of India; and

(d) the details of the measures taken for early disposal of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAEJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) While speaking at a function in January, 2000 to commemorate the golden Jubilee of the